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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Hungary

DATE DISTR. 13 August 1948

SUBJECT The Sio Channel and the Pet Explosives Factory

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1. In the summer of 1947, a Rumanian delegation was invited to visit the site of the Lake Balaton-Danube River channel called Sio Channel. They observed that the channel had been deepened and widened by large numbers of workers and machinery. Later, one of the Russian engineers who spoke good Hungarian, stated to a member of the delegation that the channel is being built to accomodate river and sea-going boats in order to connect Fuzfo on the north shores of Lake Balaton with other river and seaports. He also said that a port is being built at Fuzfo to accomodate these vessels.
2. As possible confirmation, informant said he heard from an official named Axsinger of the Pet fertilizer and explosive plant that such a harbor is being built, and that Fuzfo is the only point where the Balaton is deep enough to accomodate the port. Axsinger also stated that the fertilizer and explosive plant is now (summer 1947) again in full production. Informant believes that since the greatest bauxite mines are quite close to Fuzfo, and since the mining sites are connected with Fuzfo by a railroad track built during the war, the port may be used to ship bauxite and other products from this important war production area over waterways to the Soviet Union.

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